

## BOOK REVIEW

A MODEL FLORA OF OHIO — "THE MONOCOTYLEDONEAE" by E. LUCY BRAUN. The Ohio State University Press. Columbus, Ohio. 1967. 464 pages. Price \$10. Profusely illustrated.

Here is another book by the indefatigable Lucy Braun. And, as usual, it is a good one. This imposing volume, the first of a series entitled "The Vascular Flora of Ohio", extends "from cat-tails to orchids", i.e. *Typhaceae* through *Orchidaceae*. The title of the book, and the *Bromus* illustration on the cover are gilt-edged; so is the arrangement of printing, subject matter, and illustrations. We have as a beginning a "preface" instead of a "foreword" (cf. Fowler's "Modern English Usage"), and this general good quality continues throughout the book. In this preface we read that "the usability is not only for the student or botanist, but also by the amateur and the fieldworker in any of the natural sciences" and that "the illustrations have been drawn from fresh specimens whenever possible except for a large proportion of the Pondweeds, Rushes, Grasses, and Sedges".

In the Introduction, which occupies nine pages, there is a series of maps with comment on them, and comment also on some of the troubles of nomenclature. These maps, as might be expected of Miss Braun's wide interests, cover Ohio phenomena: January temperatures, length of average growing season, snowfall, geological maps of rock types and of glaciation, and a detailed landform map.

Practically all of the native Ohio species are illustrated by fine line drawings. There is a general dearth in the literature of illustrations made from living plants, and such illustrations may help to bridge the gap between Gray's Manual and Gleason's "Britton & Brown". One could wish for more detailed drawings of spikelets in the grasses, especially if drawn from living specimens, since they are such a difficult group for anybody. Even in *Carex* the drawings are excellent, and Miss Braun in *Carex* nomenclature fortunately follows Hermann, who knows *Carex*. The drawings are especially beautiful in the *Liliaceae* and *Orchidaceae*.

For each native species there is a distribution map with the counties outlined, as in Deam's "Flora of Indiana". It will be interesting to compare these Indiana and Ohio plant maps, and also similar maps in some of the Southern states. This comparison would not do for New England, where the counties are very large.

There will always be some differences of opinion as to nomenclature. I would like to see the name *Arisaema triphyllum* reestablished for our common northern species of jack-in-the-pulpit. Even Linnaeus, who was familiar with the Burser Herbarium, concluded that the "Brazilian" specimen came from Canada, and the subject was long ago admirably treated by Juel, under the title "The French apothecary's plants in Burser's Herbarium", in RHODORA, vol. 33 (1931). Also I should like to see the differences mentioned in the key to *Lilium superbum* and *L. michiganense* brought out more clearly in the illustrations. I am so obtuse that I cannot make out the distinction between the two species, although I have collected both of them.

The name "dog's-tooth lily" for *Erythronium* is a new one. It is far better than the saccharine "fawn lily" and "trout lily", both manufactured names; but lacks the fine historical background and long usage of the real common name "dog's-tooth violet". The name "violet" was not at all confined to the genus *Viola* throughout the ages, but included many flowers with the "ion" or violet coloration of plants which belonged also to the *Cruciferae* and *Liliaceae*. The European "erythro-ion" (i.e. *Erythronium*) has purplish flowers. The subject together with a discussion of many similar problems, is well taken up by E. A. Lopez in "Apuntes para un concepto del genero y la especie en la Historia de la Botanica" in *Anales del Jardin Botánico de Madrid*, vol. 34: 315-355 (1944).

One more point: the hazy *Eleocharis palustris* of Europe should be omitted. It has no real basis in America, but the native *E. Smallii* is instead founded on identifiable material. See RHODORA 49: 64-65 (1947) and North American Flora 18, pt. 9: 526 (1957).

As evidence to show that he has read the text carefully, the reviewer is expected to come up with at least some trifling errors. These are hard to find, and consist of a few misspellings in the index, some of which are reflected in the text. The correct examples are *Anthoxanthum puelii*, *Carex hormathodes*, *Carex tuckermani*, *Rhoeo*, and *Epipactis helleborine*; also the name is Lumnitzer, and not "Lumnitzer" under *Carex varia*, but the error comes from Gray's Manual. But such trivialities occur in every publication, and they do not really detract any from this admirable piece of work.

HENRY K. SVENSON  
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#### ERRATA

- Page 7, line 2 for subtropicals read subtropical  
 Page 8, 4th line from bottom eliminate "g"  
 Page 25, line 7 for Grisch read Griseb.  
 Page 27, line 34 for *Erichitites* read *Erechtites*  
 Page 27, line 34 for *hieraceifolia* read *hieracifolia*  
 Page 32, line 1 for *brachycarps* read *brachycarpus*  
 Odd pages 37-57, heading for Bromelliaceae read Bromeliaceae  
 Page 123, -line 4 for *Fucus* read *Fucus*  
 Page 183, line 5 for **Bigeloy** read **Bigelow**  
 Page 419, Fig. 1 caption, line 3 for *purpurea* read *purpurea*  
 Page 452, caption Fig. 18 for *Elakatothrix* read *Elaktothrix*  
 Page 465, caption Fig. 34 for *Glenodinium* read *Glendodinium*  
 Page 465, caption Fig. 39 for *Rhodomanas* read *Rhodomonas*